General Notes

The Ruffed Grouse is often called "Fool Hen" in the Far West, and obviously there is a question of how near to extermination they came before all the fools were killed off. M. M. Nice says there are more hawks in England than in New England; but of course the English birds will be much wiser, and I think the danger of our hawks being exterminated must be very small. To me, a boy with a gun is at least as much a part of nature as is a hawk. "So careful of the type she seems, so careless of the single life."—WILLIAM P. HAINSWORTH, North Andover, Mass.

Baird's Sparrow at Home.-Mr. E. T. Judd's south pasture in the Big Coulee near Cando, Towner County, North Dakota, furnished an ideal summer home for the rather poorly known Baird's Sparrow (Ammodramus bairdi). It was here in June, 1934, that the writer found a fine colony of these sparrows and decided that there were no less than twenty-five pairs of them living in close harmony with their near neighbors. These neighbors consisted of dozens of pairs of Savannah Sparrows, Clay-colored Sparrows, Western Meadowlarks, Chestnutcollared Longspurs, Greater Prairie Chickens, and several species of ducks. This same pasture is reported to be also the home of that most retiring of prairie birds, the Sprague's Pipit. However, I had come too early to the Cando region and the pipits, if they had arrived, were not heard singing, and thus were not added to the bird list. Baird's Sparrow is an interesting species, because of the long period of time that it remained little known. This was mainly due to its close likeness in flight, appearance, and nesting habits to the Savannah Sparrow. The song is quite distinctive, but out on the prairie there are many birds singing at once and it could easily remain undistinguished. I found one unfinished nest and knew that the birds were actually nesting in this spot. A hurried vacation found me leaving Mr. Judd's kind hospitality and his big south pasture, where one could well spend weeks observing the many species of prairie birds.—Wм. YOUNGWORTH, Sioux City, Iowa.

The Western Blue Grosbeak in Iowa.--During the past two years I have seen the Western Blue Grosbeak (Guiraca caerulea interfusa) on three or four occasions near Sioux City, Iowa. However, a specimen record was never made during this time. On June 23, 1934, I found a pair of the grosbeaks two and one-half miles north of Sioux City on the J. W. and J. A. Sturtevant farm, which is located on the Big Sioux River, in Plymouth County, Iowa. The birds were located in a scattered group of bur oak trees, which is their favorite habitat. I disliked to collect the bird so late in the season, and yet I wanted to establish the status of the species in Iowa, and therefore took only the male bird. According to Mr. Philip A. DuMont, no specimens have ever been taken in Iowa. I have made many early morning trips in search of the Blue Grosbeak in Iowa, and feel that such trips will in the future bring to light the summer residence of two other species of western birds. These are the Lazuli Bunting, of which I have one sight record, and the Black-headed Grosbeak. Both of these birds have been found breeding in Yankton County, South Dakota, which is about fifty miles from Sioux City, and since we have the identical type of habitat here at Sioux City, I think the birds eventually will be found breeding in northwestern Iowa.-WM. YOUNGWORTH. Sioux City, Iowa.

Nesting of the Kentucky Warbler in Butler County, Ohio.—For years I have suspected the Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) as nesting in Butler County, for on different occasions I have seen these birds during the breeding